

WITH THE TROOPS

The "Intelligencer's" Correspondent in Camp at Tampa.

SOMETHING ABOUT MULES

AND THEIR UTILITY AS CARRIERS OF WAR BURDENS—GENERAL JOSEPH WHEELER GLAD TO GET BACK INTO A "BLUE UNIFORM"—CAPTURED CORRESPONDENTS—THE PERIL OF LIEUTENANT ROWAN'S MISSION TO THE CUBAN INSURGENT ARMY.

From our own correspondent.

TAMPA, Fla., May 22.—It rained here, and then again would the sun shine on Tampa. A snowball falling down hill could not gather mass as fast as they do, and the old story, familiar to every school boy, of the man who vomited three black crows is thrown into the background by much of the news circulated here.

I do not know that any one starts a story with deliberate intention—the only wonder would be that it should be done. The next man says it will be done. No. Three hears croakily and says it has been done, and the venditor correspondents, less some competent, "scoop" for his paper, burns the wire in his haste, only, in many cases, to be obliged to order his news "called" an hour later.

Staff officers here, as at all places, are busy with the general issues of an order against the troops, and the quartermaster will furnish material for a first-class full dress, and give the new chaplain a case in 1898, and each related incident in his own career. Gen. Howard, telling how nervous Wheeler was to make him about the safety of his wagon trains, and Gen. Wheeler, telling how his son's laughter was a source of great anxiety once he and one of his staff over two miles, when they had been out of camp without order, to call on some friends; and Maj. Whittle, who told Gen. Howard's provost marshal, who could not find the list of names spun during the dinner, and I told them how we found how long a line-of-battle he could show, in Tennessee, by the amount of track he could turn off the railroad bed.

Mail facilities for the troops can be improved very much. Until it is known to what brigade, division or corps the soldier belongs there must be delays, and for every regiment has two attached to it, and there are two or three medical directors, one or two yellow fever experts, and then come "the vets" with the cavalry.

In a coral near the railroad, not far from the shore of the bay, are about eight hundred mules, which had been bought in St. Louis for the Spanish government, and had reached Cuba when war was declared. They were to be paid for by Cuba, so our government bought the lot and saved the owners from actual loss. But, did they deserve to be saved from loss? It is a question which is being asked, and that if it came on the mule would be used in service against this country. Put a pin's point on their patellar, and see how much will be left uncovered.

THE SCIENCE OF PACKING.

Packers are engaged in sorting out mules for their use, fitting the pack furniture, etc. Most of them will be fitted with packs of the type known as "Spanish" which are to be prepared to the saddle with a "tree and sawback."

It consists, first, of two or more thick felt blankets folded large enough to nearly cover the mule's body, and then a rope about fifty feet in length, which has at one end a broad webbing belt, to pass under the belly, as was done with the others.

Another squeezing is given and the rope is crossed in different directions over the load, tightened at every crossing, and finally fastened in a knot which can be loosened by a pull.

"Packing" is a science, as is such common as to be known as a "Chief Packman" to be paid a salary of \$150 per month on the frontier, and his duty is taught to cavalrymen, as being most efficient, and they are considered very expert in it.

At a pack drill of the Ninth Cavalry a few days before it left Montana, one company detail packed its mule in one hour and fifteen seconds, and others were but little slower.

Thirty mules generally constitute a "train," and are managed by three men. They are trained to follow a bell, and to follow a horse, well preferred, as being most efficient, and they are confined in any way, except when first put into the train; then, any straying from it is punished very severely, and the mule soon learns his place, and that it is his duty to follow.

Each man with the train carries a diamond-shaped leather blind with leather cords attached to the ends, and attached together, if a pack becomes unbalanced, two of the men lead the mule out of the trail, blindfold him with this blind, rearrange his load, remove the leather and allow him to resume his fellows. He is never struck when he is thus treated, and he soon learns his place, and that it is his duty to follow.

GEN. JOE WHEELER.

The happiest man about Tampa just now is General Joe Wheeler. The first time he put on his new uniform his feelings must have taken a retrospective turn, and he doubtless thought of the day when he so foolishly discarded it years ago, and when the rebel gray. He holds quite a loving interest in the uniform, and I witnessed a meeting between some of the members of his old command and himself. No one seemed to intrude upon a happy mood, and one afterward said to me: "You bet, little Joe is mighty glad to get back into a blue uniform."

Though a few two years ago, he is as "gray as the mule's tail," but he is now, making purchases for camp life, which, unless very bulky, he refuses to have sent to his room, preferring to carry them.

With his (about 125 pounds of bone and nerve he is a most marked contrast to General Shafter with his (nearly 200, and one correspondent suggested that the two swap uniforms. This proposition was met with a look of surprise, and that we could not afford to lose "Joe" now that we had him.

The colonel of the Sixth Infantry is an officer whose size must interfere with a very busy life, as he has a vacancy in a crowd to see when he withdraws from it.

Among those who have come to see when the Americans make war, is an English captain of artillery, a quiet, gentlemanly man, who is in uniform, whom it is difficult always to recognize, as he sports a different style of uniform from those who are familiar with the uniform, and sometimes on foot, at others on horseback, penetrated to Bayamo, in the province of Santiago de Cuba, where he found the headquarters of the insurgent chief. The place had only lately been abandoned by a Spanish garrison.

But a short time was required to transact the business with which he was charged, and then, without rest, he was

placed in command, being, it was supposed, the senior officer. But as both the General and the lieutenant had the longest terms of service, it was decided that he was entitled to the command. It was turned over to him without any friction, the former duties of each being assumed by the other without any formality or delay.

Major General James F. Wade is a native of Ohio, and son of that sturdy old patriot, "Old Ben Wade."

He was appointed first lieutenant of the Sixth United States Cavalry, a new organization, in May, 1881, and, through the several grades, attaining that of colonel in April, 1887, and brigadier general ten years later. He is a quiet, unassuming, unostentatious gentleman, a good disciplinarian, and liked by all.

RELIEF FOR CUBANS.

Gen. O. O. Howard, accompanied by Maj. Whittle, is on the ground, engaged in Y. M. C. A. work among the soldiers, and speaking to large audiences.

He was on duty in this region forty-one years ago, a lieutenant of artillery, closing up business connected with the Seminole war.

I had a conversation with him relative to the matter of relief for the fact that he is connected with the starving Cubans as soon as we have control of any portion of the island. He indignantly, heartily, the plan of collection of money for the relief, and that parties supervising the collection correspond with the Red Cross society, and have the relief distributed by it.

But I think that some one party should be charged with the supervision of the collection, and propose that he be requested to take up that work. His standing in all philanthropic work will be a guarantee that donations will not be wasted, and, widely as he is known, would be a guarantee that the money would go to the Cubans, as an organization, of going to Cuba, as an organization, to fight for the insurgents. But as they would be upon the same footing in the eye of international law as would privateers, they received no encouragement from the army officers, and but little from the Cubans. To me the organization appeared to be formed most for what it could make for them for fighting for anyone's liberty, or for the good of any country.

A lamentable affair took place at Camp Lakeland day before yesterday, a white citizen of the place being killed in a shooting affray in which some soldiers and Maj. Whittle were concerned.

The affray grew out of the refusal of a man to sell soda water to the soldiers, and the story, as told to me, puts the soldiers wholly in the wrong; but as that part of the tale was bolstered up by other witnesses, I cannot be sure. I shall suspend judgment till I have opportunity to investigate in person.

HENRY ROMEYN.

Brevet Major, U. S. A., Retired.

off for home, traveling as before, and toward the northern coast. On reaching it, the party at once put out to sea in a small open boat, the only one to be had, and, in the evening, it was decided that they would be picked up by a sloop and carried to Nassau, from which place, after some delay, they got to Key West. As bearer of the message, when the sloop was captured would have had but "short shrift" if captured, and the first easy breath he drew after he landed on Cuban soil was on his arrival at Nassau.

He said that he had something of a division on Sunday when he was in the woods adjoining the "camp" caught fire, and the flames threatened to destroy their tents. The palmetto scrub is from one to three feet high and very dry, and burns almost as rapidly as straw, and it required hard and hot work to extinguish the fire.

They charged it, mounted, with wet blankets, but the wetting had to be repeated, and the fire was not put out until several men and horses were slightly burned.

Had the fire got a start among the tents, the result would have been most disastrous, but the fire was not allowed to spread, and the only loss was the whole camp, not only of the Ninth Cavalry, but of all the batteries adjoining it.

Two men, whose names I did not get, were here for some time in contact, hence both with our officers and the prominent Cubans. They claimed to represent an organization numbering nearly 1,000 men of the late Union and Confederate Cavalry, and who were going to Cuba, as an organization, to fight for the insurgents. But as they would be upon the same footing in the eye of international law as would privateers, they received no encouragement from the army officers, and but little from the Cubans. To me the organization appeared to be formed most for what it could make for them for fighting for anyone's liberty, or for the good of any country.

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munition, commencing a part of the intercourse and agreement we have with God and each other.

Chronic Rheumatism.

From the Industrial News, Jackson, Mich.: The subject of this sketch is fifty-six years of age, and actively engaged in farming. When seventeen years old he hurt his shoulder and a few years after he commenced to have rheumatic pains in it. On taking a slight cold or the least strain, sometimes without any apparent cause whatever, the trouble would start and he would suffer the most excruciating pains.

He suffered for over thirty years, and the last decade has suffered so much that he was unable to do any work. To this the frequent occurrences of dizzy spells, making him almost a helpless invalid.

He tried the best physicians but without being benefited and has used several special remedies, but was not helped. About one year and six months ago he read in this paper of a case somewhat similar to his which was cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and concluded to try this remedy.

After taking the first box he felt somewhat better, and after using three boxes, the pains entirely disappeared. The dizziness left him, and he has now for over a year been entirely free from all his troubles, and enjoys better health than he has had since his boyhood.

He is loud in his praises of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, for Pale People, and has gladly corroborated the statements. His post office address is Lorenzo Neely, Horton, Jackson County, Michigan.

All the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves are contained in a condensed form, in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. All druggists sell them.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

Markets.

NEW YORK, May 27.—Money on call steady at 1 1/4 per cent; last loan 1 1/2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 per cent. Sterling exchange firm with actual business in banking bills at \$4 8 1/2 to \$4 9 1/2 for demand and at \$4 8 1/4 to \$4 9 1/4 for 60 days; posted rates \$4 8 1/4 and \$4 8 1/2; commercial bills at \$4 8 1/4 to \$4 8 1/2. Silver certificates 5 1/2 to 5 3/4. Bar silver 77 1/2. Mexican dollars 45 1/2.

The stock market enjoyed a period of strength this morning, and the gains were practically all wiped out before the day ended, except in the few special stocks which had sustained the list all day. Even some of these closed at prices lower than when the night's closing. The late weakness was all the more remarkable on account of the sustaining force exerted by the buoyancy of People's Gas. This stock made a remarkable display of strength and absorbed a large proportion of the day's total dealings. The extreme rise was almost three points and the advance was effected in face of the pronounced bearishness of the general market, which was dropping under the persistent dribble of realizing sales. The advance in People's Gas was due to very confident buying on the part of inside interests. It may have been the result of a short interest which has been put out in the last few days on the strength of threatened litigation against the combination of companies. After the stock touched par, it fell to 1 1/2, and then rose to 1 3/4, and finally closed at 1 3/4.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat, No. 2	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
May	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
July	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
Sept.	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
Dec.	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
Jan.	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4
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